



BE TRUE TO  
**DOVER**



# Our Aspirations

- Maintain the rural character of Dover
- Actively support conservation efforts and protect our environment
- Be fiscally responsible while investing for the future
- Take time to make informed decisions as a community

# Why We Live in Dover

*Rural character*



*Top Rated Schools*



*Fiscally Responsible Government*



*2011 Town Survey - 60% of residents chose “rural character” as the first or second most important reason they moved to Dover*

# Article 18 Areas for Consideration

- Financial Consequences
- Environmental Impact
- Concern for Abutters
- Traffic and Safety
- Parking Capacity
- Long Term Outlook

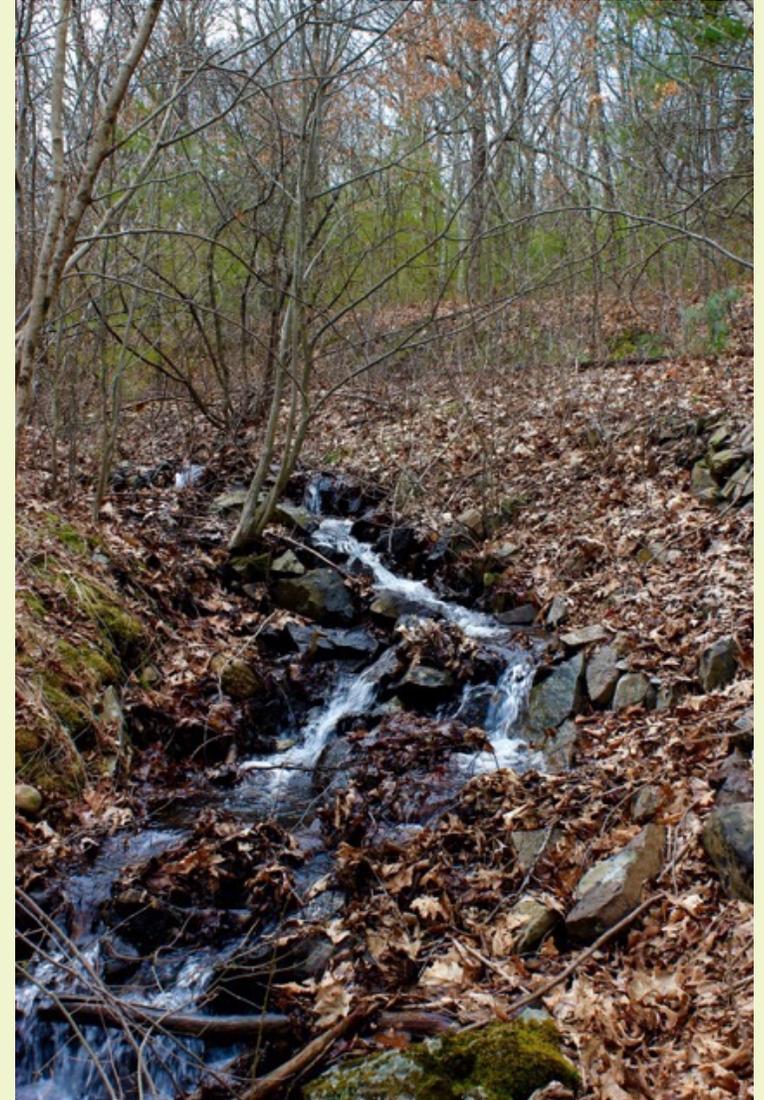
# Financial Considerations

- Historically infrastructure projects have resulted in unanticipated expenses...taxes
- Will the impact on town services, the police, fire and highway department ultimately lead to budget increases?
- FDG has committed to 10 years of financial support, what about the remaining 89 years?
- How we will pay the \$50K deductible on the Environmental Liability policy should we have a claim?



# Environmental Considerations

- The rail line has been inactive for 10 years and nature has already started taking it back
- Heavy equipment and surface materials will forever change vegetation and displace animals in the habitat
- Initiating a development project across a 100+ year old rail line is a complex environmental project with potential financial and health risks
- The standard MBTA lease does not allow for soil samples to be taken



# Abutter Considerations

- For residents this will be a loss of privacy - people cutting through yards, noise, dogs and trash are genuine concerns
- Equestrians, hikers, dog owners and the Norfolk Hunt Club use and maintain trails throughout the Dover Valley - a century long tradition
- Interrupted and restricted access to conservation land for current users



# Traffic and Safety Considerations

- The Springdale/Dedham Street intersection is a recognized safety issue
- Chief McGowan wrote a letter to the planning board for the Dunkin' Donuts traffic study stating that speed is a major complaint (often 37 mph) and sight lines are a challenge
- Will this intersection need to be re-designed and at what cost?



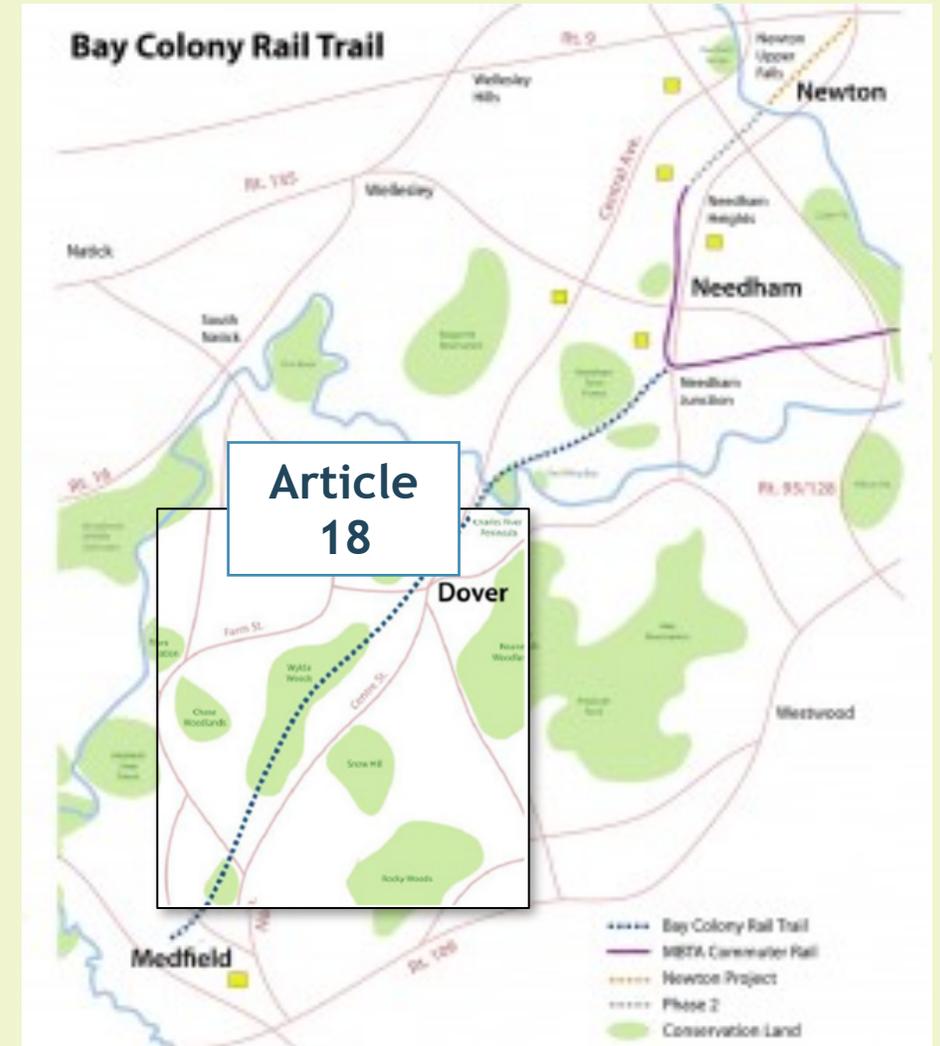
# Parking Considerations

- No additional parking is planned
- Parking in Dover Center is already heavily utilized on weekends with town events, the library and cyclists
- Hunt Drive does not have any designated parking
- The new parking lot in Needham for the rail trail cost \$162k



# Long Term Considerations

- Article 18 contemplates a short 2-3 mile trail within Dover
- The Bay Colony Rail Trail is an organization working towards a 7 mile trail connecting 4 towns that would result in significantly higher usage
- Longer trail = More Services = \$\$\$



# The Bay Colony Rail Trail Organization

The screenshot shows the website's header with navigation links: Home, The Project, Links, Maps, Blogs, Contact, Gallery, and Volunteers. A search bar is located on the right. The main banner features the title "The Bay Colony Rail Trail" and the subtitle "A Newton-Needham-Dover-Medfield Project", both highlighted with a green circle. A "Donate" button and payment logos are also visible. Below the banner is a navigation bar with links for "Frequently Asked Questions", "In the News", "Resource Library", and "Other Trails".

The main content area includes a "User login" section with fields for "Username:" and "Password:", a "Remember me" checkbox, and a "Log in" button. Below this are links for "Log in using OpenID" and "Request new password".

The central section is titled "Welcome!" and features a video player for "Bay Colony Rail Trail Overview" showing a train on tracks. Below the video is a paragraph: "The unused rail line between Needham and Medfield offers a wonderful opportunity for a rail trail conversion. This rail corridor has few road intersections and runs along the Needham Town Forest, then through miles of woods in Dover away from residences and along ponds and conservation land." A "Read more" link is at the bottom.

On the right side, there are several widgets: "TOWN SITES" listing "BCRT Needham", "Friends of Dover", "Greenway", and "Upper Falls Greenway", which is circled in green; "NETWORK WITH US" with links for "Subscribe to our Newsletter", "Find us on Facebook", and "LinkedIn"; and "LATEST NEWS" with two news items: "Five things to do in Needham - Wicked Local Needham" and "Lagging in bicycling amenities, communities of Boston look to catch up - Boston Globe".

# Will There be a Bridge Over the Charles?



Picture of Needham trail ending at Charles River

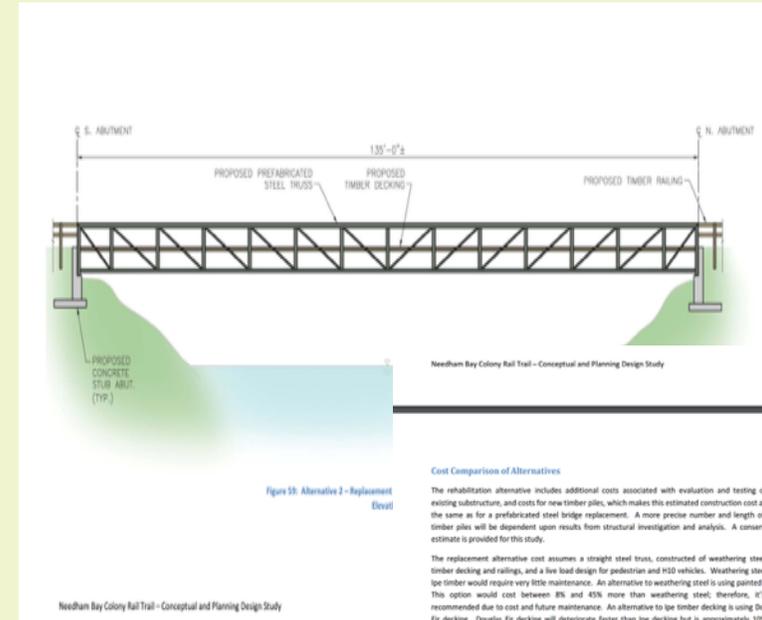


Figure 55: Alternative 2 - Replacement Elevat

Needham Bay Colony Rail Trail - Conceptual and Planning Design Study

Needham Bay Colony Rail Trail - Conceptual and Planning Design Study

Part III - Charles River Bridge Visual Assessment 25

#### Cost Comparison of Alternatives

The rehabilitation alternative includes additional costs associated with evaluation and testing of the existing substructure, and costs for new timber piles, which makes this estimated construction cost almost the same as for a prefabricated steel bridge replacement. A more precise number and length of new timber piles will be dependent upon results from structural investigation and analysis. A conservative estimate is provided for this study.

The replacement alternative cost assumes a straight steel truss, constructed of weathering steel, top timber decking and railings, and a live load design for pedestrian and H20 vehicles. Weathering steel and top timber would require very little maintenance. An alternative to weathering steel is using painted steel. This option would cost between 8% and 45% more than weathering steel; therefore, it's not recommended due to cost and future maintenance. An alternative to top timber decking is using Douglas fir decking. Douglas fir decking will deteriorate faster than top decking but is approximately 20% less expensive. A third alternative to consider is the live load design requirements. If the bridge is designed for pedestrian live load only, the bridge cost would be reduced by approximately 8-10%.

Both alternatives include the cost for the partial or full demolition of the railroad bridge include the removal and disposal of the timber components assuming these members contain creosote, pentachlorophenol and/or CCA and the complexity of performing the demolition work in and over the Charles River.

#### Recommendation

Alternative 1 has several unknowns associated with the reuse of the existing timber substructure. Even if some of the existing timber substructure components can be reused, they would not be expected to last nearly as long as a replacement substructure would. The minor potential cost savings of reusing the existing substructure must be weighed against the construction and maintenance costs of the bridge structure. Alternative 1 would only prolong the inevitable substructure replacement.

It is recommended that the existing railroad bridge over the Charles River be removed in its entirety and replaced with a prefabricated steel bridge (Alternative 2). Alternative 2 would provide for an aesthetically pleasing, economical bridge structure with a design life of 75 years. This bridge alternative would also minimize environmental impacts since there would be no intermediate supports in the Charles River.

Needham Bay Colony Rail Trail - Conceptual and Planning Design Study

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Table 10: Bridge Alternatives Cost Comparison

ALTERNATIVE 1: Rehabilitation				
Work Description	Unit	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
Demolition of Portions of Railroad Bridge	Lump Sum	1	\$342,800	\$342,800
Timber Superstructure & Railings	Lump Sum	1	\$79,800	\$79,800
Timber Piles	Foot	2600	\$85	\$221,000
Concrete Abutments/Wingwalls	Lump Sum	1	\$98,000	\$98,000
Inspection & Testing	Lump Sum	1	\$10,500	\$10,500
Mobilization/Demobilization	Lump Sum	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
Subtotal				\$802,700
Contingencies (25%)				\$200,700
Total				\$1,003,400
Budget				\$1,000,000

ALTERNATIVE 2: Replacement				
Work Description	Unit	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
Demolition of Entire Railroad Bridge	Lump Sum	1	\$500,300	\$500,300
Prefabricated Steel Bridge & Railings	Lump Sum	1	\$229,900	\$229,900
Concrete Abutments/Wingwalls	Lump Sum	1	\$109,200	\$109,200
Mobilization/Demobilization	Lump Sum	1	\$75,000	\$75,000
Subtotal				\$914,400
Contingencies (25%)				\$228,600
Total				\$1,143,000
SAF				\$1,200,000

Estimated cost to remove trestle bridge and install a steel bridge: **\$1.2M**

# Consider What Dover Already Has

*Powissett Farm*



Source: [www.sunmultisportevents.com](http://www.sunmultisportevents.com)

*Elm Bank*



Source: [www.healthylaps.com](http://www.healthylaps.com)

*Springdale Farm*



***Over 1500 acres of conservation  
land and 60 miles of trails***

# Vote NO on Article 18



- Financial Impact?
- Environmental Impact?
- Concern for Abutters?
- Traffic and Safety?
- Parking Capacity?
- Long term Plan?